

# THE TOKEN HUNTER

## National Utah Token Society

N.U.T.S.

Dedicated to the collecting, recording and preserving of  
Utah's historical medals, tokens, coins and bottles.

*Hello Everyone,*

*It's that time of year again, Christmas lights are on the houses, the tree is up and decorated, Christmas music plays on the radio, and the spirit of Christmas fills our hearts. What a special time of year.*

*I would like to thank Mr. Phil Yadanza, the Utah Gold Prospectors club president, for his wonderful presentation on gold and gold prospecting. Hopefully in the future when the weather improves many of us will be able to give gold prospecting a try.*

*I would like to thank all N.U.T.S. club members and this years officers for your dedication and support in making 2010 a great success. It has been an honor and privilege being this year's club president. Thank you!*

*Also my best wishes for a great and successful year to our 2011 officers/wagon masters. I know they will continue the vision and success of the NUTS club.*

*During this time of year, please remember that life can become very busy and frantic: trying to find the best deal for a gift; being able to find all the items on the list for family and friends; and where did I park the car. Keep in your mind and heart that the true meaning of Christmas is not material things and commercialization; it's about the gift of love we give to family and friends and the love we receive in return.*

*I look forward to seeing everyone at this years Christmas dinner on December 16<sup>th</sup>. We will have a wonderful time with family, friends, food and lots of prizes. Keep searching for that gold coin it may be under the Christmas tree this year.*

*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!*  
*Todd Monson*

## Utah space expert recalls Apollo 8 Christmas Eve message

December 24th, 2008 @ 10:12pm

By Ed Yeates

While kids awaited the arrival of Santa on this night four decades ago, the people of Earth listened to three voices from a different sleigh far out in space. Tonight marks the 40th anniversary of a message from three wise men in their own right aboard Apollo 8.

Apollo 8 was risky, and even though Frank Borman, Jim Lovell and William Anders never stepped on the Moon's surface, they were the first to see it from 60 miles out. They pulled off what was a nearly perfect, one-half million mile, multi-orbit journey.

On Christmas Eve, millions of people on Earth listened and watched as the crew symbolically read from the Book of Genesis and delivered a Christmas message.



Harry Ames, with Utah State University's Space Dynamics Lab was a budding young engineer working for North American Rockwell in Southern California back then.

Harry Ames

"I can close my eyes, and I can picture that scene in our little apartment perfectly," Ames said. "As I sat there listening to that narration, I cried; my wife cried."

It was emotional for everybody, but most especially for anyone connected with the space program. Apollo 8's trip around the moon set the stage for that historical manned landing a year later.

In all, eight more Apollo missions would visit the moon, with six landing on the surface.

Forty years ago, astronauts would have predicted we would have man on Mars by now, maybe even beyond that. But priorities, many justified, have changed where we invest our money.



Ames understands the priorities, but it's our thinking he fears the most. While young creative students dreamed of space adventures in the '60s and '70s, those visions are buffered now.

Ames says he's disappointed but not about to give up. He suggests, "We have to inspire our youth. We have to make this business more fun, become less risk-adverse as a nation and find the right motivation. Let's get beyond our solar system."

E-mail: [eyeates@ksl.com](mailto:eyeates@ksl.com)



November 18<sup>th</sup>

Guest Speaker

By Mike Morey

At the November club meeting, Phil Yadanza, gave a fantastic presentation on gold prospecting and displayed an amazing collection of gold specie from his personal collection. Mr. Yadanza has served as President of the Utah Gold Prospector Club for well over a decade and is an expert on prospecting methods used by modern gold seekers.

Various methods of prospecting were discussed such as metal detecting for nuggets, panning, sluice boxes, high bankers and dredging. After hearing Phil speak, it is clear that as in metal detecting and screening, research and education about intended search areas are critical. He noted the similarities on our hobbies by stating as a beginner there is about an 80/20 ratio in work vs. knowledge which reverses over time as you learn your equipment, understand the area you are hunting, and gain experience.

Utah does have opportunities for the recreational prospector. Start by looking for gold where gold has been found before. The old timers often sought out the high paying and easier to reach gold and moved on after production was no longer at high levels. Mine dumps and mill sites can sometimes hold gold missed by the Old-timers. Respecting private property and claims, a knowledge of regulations and permit requirements are essential.

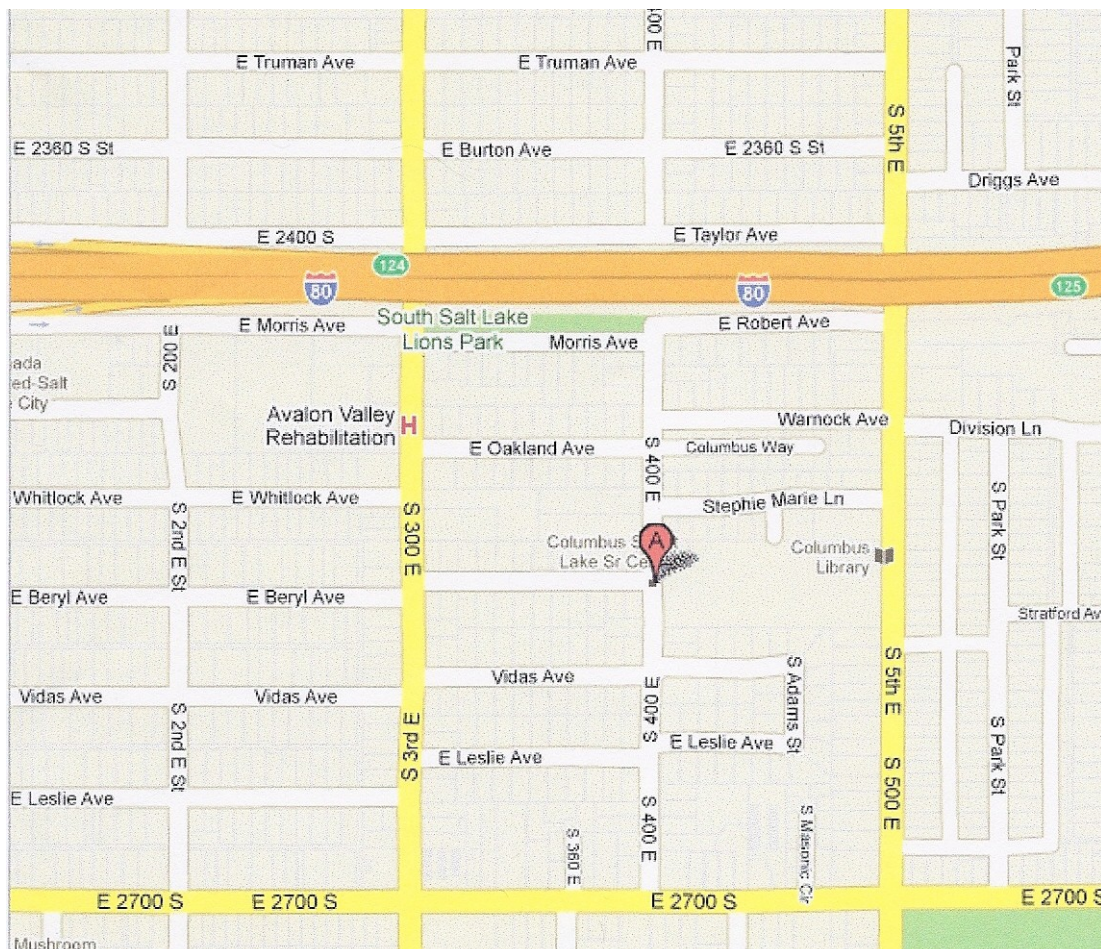
With gold nearing \$1400 per ounce and large nuggets often selling for two to three times that price, it is little wonder that another gold rush seems to be on!

The Utah Gold Prospector Club meets the third Tuesday of each month and holds several outings each year. Their website is [www.utahgold.org](http://www.utahgold.org)



**CHRISTMAS PARTY**  
**DECEMBER 16TH AT 6:30 PM**  
**TICKETS: \$17 PER ADULT**  
**\$7.50 PER 14 AND UNDER**  
**PLEASE RSVP [YES] OR [NO]**

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## JJ VALERIO

I was born in American Fork Utah just after Christmas 1983 and was raised in the surrounding area. My parents divorced when I was seven. I attended Seego Lilly, Central, Joaquin, Shelly, and Forbes elementary schools. When I was twelve I moved in with my dad and grandparents, where I experienced a more stable residence and attended American Fork Junior High and High Schools. I graduated high school in 2002 and it was there I learned to enjoy automotive work. I began the workforce at CAL Ranch store while I was still in high school and then quit to attend Utah Valley State College. I received a scholarship to UVSC to pursue my education as an Automotive Technician due to competitions in that field. While attending UVSC I worked in a small shop called Grays Automotive until my

scholarship ended. After that, my best friend found me a job with him at CUBCO Doors, framing and hanging doors and later delivering doors and hardware. I worked there for three years before beginning the Police Academy at Utah Valley State College. While at the academy I lost my job at CUBCO and was hired with Swanson Building Materials, delivering and mixing stucco. I worked there until finishing the Police Academy and being hired on with the Department of Corrections. After graduating the corrections academy, I was put working housing at Promontory where I stayed for three years on the twelve hour night shift. This job helped push me back into college and helped to pass the time. It was there that I started researching metal detecting, and found it looked rewarding as well as interesting. I already had a love for the outdoors, as well as old relics and history in general,

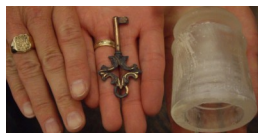
which made metal detecting feel like a natural step. I began metal detecting about two years ago with a Garret Ace 250. I started in my yard where I found more than five tokens, a hand full of wheat pennies and a couple of rings. After that I was hooked and began taking it everywhere I went; to vacations, four wheeling, and to friends houses. Some of my most fun finds are; military buttons, jewelry, tokens and silver coins. I still have not found anything really old or valuable nor have I gotten the opportunity to go metal detecting with many of you from the club. I am always looking for those who share the same interest as mine and are willing to have me tag along with them when they go. I have greatly enjoyed this year that I have been a part of the NUTS Club and I always love hearing of the experience, finds, wisdom, and tips from those who share a love for metal detecting.

# FIND OF THE MONTH NOVEMBER WINNERS

Not Pictured  
Leo Vera, Foreign Coin



Anthony Bos, Jewelry & Key, JJ Valerio, Non-metal



Mike Morey, Oldest US Cent



Boyd Pickering, Bottle



Laura Berry, Artifact



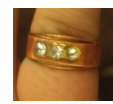
Todd Monson, Oldest US Coin, US Coin, & Token



Cliff Fausett, Button & Marble



Ciara Thompson, Youth Exhibit





# RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

## NATIONAL UTAH TOKEN SOCIETY

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SPECIAL INTERESTS, COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE AND SEND TO: NATIONAL UTAH TOKEN SOCIETY

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Please be sure to  
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We had 54 in  
attendance at the  
November  
meeting.



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- Well-researched, historically factual stories on many pieces ~ Interesting anecdotes about the proprietor, town, time-period or establishment. New information on great rarities.
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- Call for listings or to inquire on the rare, hard-to-find pieces you've been searching for - we may have it in our inventory. We will help you complete your collection.

### **Field Guide To Collecting Western Pioneer Minor Coinage**

- **Also Known As Trade Tokens** ~ Pocket-sized, full color, illustrated introduction to collecting western pioneer minor coinage. Provides a general knowledge of the history and evolution of private minor coinage and tokens due to the western coin shortage that resulted from the California Gold Rush. The different types of tokens and main collecting categories are discussed, as well as the coiners, the shapes, sizes and denominations, condition expectations, and more. Blank collection tables and note pages. A handy reference and great beginner's guide to token collecting.

### **The Collecting Guide to the Pioneer Minor Coinage of**

**American Saloons** ~ full color publication filled with saloon history, early photographs, 100-year old advertisements and directory listings, Wild West saloon stories, population information, top ten lists, rarity ratings, tables to inventory and catalog your collection and more! This book will be an invaluable reference for saloon token collectors and a great compliment to saloon token directories.

**For a Complete listing of current Auctions, Catalogs, Publications and upcoming sales and events visit us at**

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*We work hard to open the exciting token collecting field to both new and experienced collectors. Our parent company Kagin's, a major numismatic dealer, has helped us introduce tokens as pioneer minor coinage to the traditional coin collecting market. We believe token collecting is one of the last untapped coin collecting fields, with an unlimited amount of potential. Our auction house has set the standard for token values over the last 20 years and the market value has increased exponentially. We are here to help you buy and sell all types of trade tokens and to help you explore the fun and exciting world of pioneer minor coinage.*

**N.U.T.S.**  
**NATIONAL UTAH TOKEN SOCIETY**  
PO BOX 651071  
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